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(h) The main station has produced excellent results. It has been found with other crops that it is necessary to have more than one breeding station to meet the varying needs of the Presidency since a strain which may suit one locality will not necessarily suit another.

(i) No.

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" May I know whether the gentleman who is in charge of this department at Coimbatore is the only gentleman that the Government has found most qualified for the purpose ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Quite so."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" May I know from the hon. Minister what the qualifications are of the assistant who is now helping this gentleman in this department."

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Notice."

Co-operative Societies

Reduction of the rate of interest on loans to land mortgage banks.

* 693 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representations have been made to the Government to reduce the rate of interest charged by them for the loans they give to land mortgage banks and building societies ; and

(b) whether they have ever considered this matter and come to any decision upon it ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes, the Government have decided not to reduce the rate of interest for the present.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" With reference to the answer given in clause (b), may I know whether the Government propose to consider the question of reducing the rate of interest at any time ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" We are considering the question and we will go into the whole question at the time of the preparation of the budget for the next year."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" May I know on what basis the Government arrived at the decision not to reduce the rate of interest ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" The answer is only for the present year. Practically the loans budget was prepared at the time of the last budget, so we could not do anything by way of reducing the interest. We will be able to do something after going into the whole question."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" Will the Government be pleased to consider the desirability of lowering the rate of interest on monies lent to local bodies ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member will have to give notice of this question. It is foreign to the question under consideration."